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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE
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UNHCR ACTIVITIES FINANCED BY VOLUNTARY FUNDS:
REPORT FOR 1994-1995 AND PROPOSED PROGRAMMES AND
BUDGET FOR 1996

PART I. AFRICA

Section 5 - Côte d'Ivoire

(submitted by the High Commissioner)

I.5 COTE D'IVOIRE

1. Beneficiary population

1. The year 1994 was marked by the continued growth of the refugee population in Côte d'Ivoire, which increased from 251,597 at 1 January 1994 to 360,112 at 31 December of that year - an increase of 108,515 refugees. Most of them started arriving after mid-September 1994, when hostilities resumed in Liberia.
2. Liberian refugees, numbering 359,351, account for almost all the refugee population in Côte d'Ivoire. They are settled in various towns and villages (Danané, Guiglo, Toulepleu, Tabou, Grabo, Tai), situated in south-western and north-western Côte d'Ivoire. They belong to the Gio, Mano and Krahn ethnic groups and come basically from the regions of Nimba, Bong, Lofa, Grand Cape Mount and Grand Bassa. Children up to 4 years of age account for 23 per cent, while the proportion of women in the total refugee population is about 52 per cent.
3. The second component of the refugee population in Côte d'Ivoire comprises refugees of various nationalities (Vietnamese, Cambodian, Chadian, Sudanese, Iranian, Burundi and Rwandan) established in urban areas, mainly in Abidjan. At 31 December 1994, the population of urban refugees in Côte d'Ivoire was estimated to be 760 persons.
4. According to estimates by the UNHCR Branch Office in Abidjan at 31 December 1994, 346,716 refugees of all origins are receiving assistance under UNHCR's various programmes.
5. According to estimates by the UNHCR Branch Office in Abidjan, some 13,396 of the 360,112 refugees in Côte d'Ivoire receive no assistance from the programme because their degree of integration is rated as self-sufficient.

2. Developments in 1994 and 1995

6. The intensification of hostilities in Liberia following on the Akosombo talks in September 1994 has been accompanied by a constant influx of some 108,595 Liberian refugees, most of whom have settled in the Tabou region of Côte d'Ivoire. A great many of them arrived in Côte d'Ivoire in a precarious state of health and required special assistance, in the form of supplementary food supplies from the nutrition centres opened in Tabou.
7. An emergency project has been set up by the NGOs which are UNHCR's operational partners, financed from Special Funds.
8. Refugees who had been deemed to be self-sufficient by the joint appraisal mission of 1994 had their harvests spoiled by prolonged torrential rain in 1994. As a result, it was proposed that the application of the recommendations concerning the cessation of WFP food assistance to 97,000 refugees should be postponed until a later date.
9. In the course of 1994, 230 Liberian refugees in Côte d'Ivoire were resettled, for the most part in the United States, with 11 in Canada and 1 in Sweden.

3. 1996 country programmes

(a) Objectives

10. Despite efforts by the international community to restore peace in Liberia, security conditions there are still precarious, alarming and not conducive to the voluntary repatriation of the Liberian refugees in safety and dignity. Pending the creation of appropriate conditions for voluntary repatriation on a large scale, UNHCR will continue its assistance to Liberian refugees in 1996 under its regular programme of care and maintenance, the main features of which will be:

- Promotion of agricultural activities by extending the area of cultivable land through the reclamation of swampland for rice-growing;
- Continuation of negotiations with all the authorities to facilitate access to land for refugees;
- Extension of income-generation activities.

11. In addition, in close cooperation with the Government, the UNHCR Branch Office will endeavour to reinforce census monitoring in order to improve the quality of statistics on the refugee population and direct assistance as far as possible towards those who have great need of it.

12. The consultations with the Government on the identification of refugees will continue in 1996 with a view to the introduction of identity documents for them.

13. In the case of the urban refugees of various nationalities, the UNHCR Branch Office in Côte d'Ivoire will continue to provide them with practical assistance in basic areas such as: housing, medical care, transport and vocational training in the informal sector. In the absence of openings in the job market, which is very competitive, the informal sector remains the only area where they can find work.

14. Lastly, as part of efforts to find lasting solutions, promotion of the voluntary repatriation of urban refugees will be encouraged. According to the UNHCR Branch Office in Côte d'Ivoire, some 20 to 30 per cent at least of urban refugees could opt for voluntary repatriation by the end of 1996.

(i) Resettlement in a third country

15. In 1996, the UNHCR Branch Office in Côte d'Ivoire will continue its consultations with representatives of countries with an interest in this programme so as to obtain more places for refugees whose situation means that they need them. Priority will be given to vulnerable groups, provided that they meet the eligibility criteria (e.g. single vulnerable women).

(ii) Care and maintenance

16. The assistance programme will include a section of activities to be implemented on behalf of refugee young people and children. The nature of the activities in question will be determined later, once a survey has been made of the beneficiaries' needs. The operation to identify children on their own and young people in distress, which had been suspended, will be resumed in 1996.

(iii) Furthering the rights of refugees

17. As in 1995, the UNHCR Branch Office in Côte d'Ivoire will continue its efforts to further the rights of refugees by:

- Improving the operation of the approval commissions;
- Consulting with the Government in order to promote national legislation and improve the operation of the national eligibility commission;
- Promoting the OAU Convention and the convention on the rights of women.

(b) Proposed budgets for 1996

18. The successive rises in the budget since 1994 have been caused by the programme's increased needs due to the influx of nearly 100,000 Liberian refugees to Côte d'Ivoire since September 1994. It should be noted that while the initial allocation was for local settlement, it was deemed more appropriate to provide assistance under care and maintenance. The breakdown by sector of activity of the general programme budget allocations is given in the following table (in US dollars):

<u>Sector</u>	<u>Initial 1995</u>	<u>Revised 1995</u>	<u>Initial 1996</u>
Transport	450 000	423 370	500 000
Domestic needs	63 710	591 822	383 700
Water	42 170	386 748	150 000
Sanitation	33 730	250 000	130 000
Health	321 280	792 163	550 000
Shelter	75 000	285 152	112 270
Community services	134 910	200 000	230 610
Education	1 300 000	1 950 000	1 800 000
Agriculture	800 000	1 600 000	1 600 000
Income generation	90 000	155 922	155 920
Legal assistance	64 090	472 468	150 000
Agency op. support	<u>320 410</u>	<u>423 055</u>	<u>410 000</u>
<u>Total</u>	<u>3 695 300</u>	<u>7 530 700</u>	<u>6 172 500</u>

19. In 1994 and 1995, primary education and agriculture were to be found at the centre of the project's concerns. As the breakdown indicates, they will still be the project's top priority activities in 1996 and more than half of the budget will be earmarked for them in that year. The education sector, which includes 47,000 primary school children, will absorb over 30 per cent of the

1996 budget allocation. Two other sectors -- health and transport -- will share 20 per cent of budgetary resources between them in 1996. In addition, a \$ 21,700 secondary education project has been included under care and maintenance for 1995 and 1996.

20. In addition, an emergency programme was set up for Liberian refugees arriving in the Tabou area from September 1994 onwards.

(b) Implementing partners

21. The machinery for implementing and following up the programme of assistance for Liberian refugees in Côte d'Ivoire planned for 1996 will be the same as in 1995. The Danané and Tabou branch offices and the Grabo field office will directly supervise the programme, which will be implemented by:

- the Minister of the Interior, responsible for coordinating assistance to and protection of refugees;
- the Minister of the Environment, in charge of sanitation;
- the Minister of Public Works, for the construction and repair of waterworks;
- the National Agency for Support for Rural Development (ANADER), responsible for agricultural projects;
- the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) Frontline responsible for primary and secondary education of refugees;
- Caritas Côte d'Ivoire, in charge of furthering community development and the promotion of income-generating activities;
- the International Rescue Committee, for activities specific to women and children in the Guiglo region;
- the Agency for Vocational Training (AGFOPROF) was engaged to provide vocational training for refugees in various minor occupations (drivers, carpenters, etc.).

22. The World Food Programme (WFP) will provide the refugees with foodstuffs which will be distributed by the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and the Côte d'Ivoire Red Cross. As in 1995, the food rations are intended to supplement the agricultural output of the refugees, most of whom are still not self-sufficient.

(d) Programme Delivery and Administrative Support Costs

23. Variations due to changes in budget parameters are not discussed in the subsequent analysis (Overview of UNHCR Activities - Part I refers)

(i) 1994 expenditure (all sources of funds)

24. The 1994 expenditure were much lower than the revised estimates due to the fact that the post of Deputy Representative was vacant. This resulted in savings in staff and travel costs.

(ii) Revised 1995 requirements (all sources of fund)

25. The revised 1995 requirements are higher than the initial estimates due to the opening of the Field Office Grabo, and the need to purchase equipment both for the new Field Office and the UNHCR Sub-Office Tabou. The isolated location and volatile security situation required the provision of radio and security equipment in addition to vehicles and computer equipment.

(iii) Initial 1996 requirements (all sources of funds)

26. The 1996 requirements are slightly lower than the 1995 revised estimates, notably because less equipment will have to be purchased.

UNHCR EXPENDITURE IN COTE D'IVOIRE

(in thousands of United States dollars)

1994	1995		1996	
AMOUNT OBLIGATED	ALLOCATION APPROVED BY 1994 EXCOM	PROPOSED REVISED ALLOCATION	SOURCE OF FUNDS AND TYPE OF ASSISTANCE	PROPOSED ALLOCATION/ PROJECTION
GENERAL PROGRAMMES (1)				
1,000.0	-	-	EMERGENCY FUND	-
38.8 a/	19.3	7,552.4	CARE AND MAINTENANCE	6,194.2
70.0 b/	-	84.3 e/	VOLUNTARY REPATRIATION	-
4,547.8 c/	3,695.3	-	LOCAL SETTLEMENT	-
5.7 d/	-	-	RESETTLEMENT	-
1,553.7	1,689.5	3,218.6	PROGRAMME DELIVERY See Overview Tables (Part II)	2,885.8
7,216.0	5,404.1	10,855.3	SUB-TOTAL OPERATIONS	9,080.0
168.9	130.5	267.3	ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT See Overview Tables (Part II)	258.6
7,384.9	5,534.6	11,122.6	TOTAL (1)	9,338.6
SPECIAL PROGRAMMES (2)				
-	46.9	-	EDUCATION ACCOUNT	-
234.9	-	-	OTHER TRUST FUNDS Various assistance	-
114.2	67.0	135.0	ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT Junior Professional Officer See Overview Tables (Part II)	102.0
349.1	113.9	135.0	TOTAL (2)	102.0
7,734.0	5,648.5	11,257.6	GRAND TOTAL (1+2)	9,440.6

a/ of which US\$ 756 incurred against Other Programmes

b/ obligation incurred against the General Allocation for Voluntary Repatriation

c/ of which US\$ 6,512 incurred against Other Programmes

d/ obligation incurred against Other Programmes

e/ allocated from the General Allocation for Voluntary Repatriation

